

UNCLASSIFIED

7/11/76  
Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 PA-01 /021 R

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R 010251Z APR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

STATE 084000

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, AR

SUBJECT: VILLA DEVOTO FIRE

REF: FREEMAN/BUMPUS TELCON MARCH 30, 1978

1. PRESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS IN U. S. ARE EXPRESSING INCREASING INTEREST IN VILLA DEVOTO FIRE. THERE ARE SOME WHO CLAIM THAT POLITICAL PRISONERS MAY HAVE BEEN KILLED AND THAT GOA MAY BE TRYING TO COVER UP THE REPRESSIVE ACTIONS IT TOOK TO REPRESS THE EARLY MORNING RIOT.

2. COHA HAS ASKED DEPARTMENT ESPECIALLY TO CHECK CASES OF FIVE PRISONERS WHOM COHA BELIEVES MAY HAVE BEEN POLITICAL AND WHO WERE LISTED AS KILLED DURING THE FIRE. THE FIVE ARE:

A. MARIO RAUL FRANCIA. COHA HAS A FNU FRANCIA LISTED AS A 21 YEAR OLD STUDENT ARRESTED IN CORRIENTES.

B. JUAN JOSE FERNANDEZ. LISTED AS A FORMER SECRETARY TO DEPUTY DIEGO MUNIZ BARRETO. FERNANDEZ WAS ABDUCTED ON FEBRUARY 18, 1977.

C. JUAN CARLOS MUNEZ. AISC HAS A CARLOS MUNEZ LISTED AS DISAPPEARED.

D. ANTONIO ENRIQUE SANCHEZ LISTED AS ARRESTED IN 1975.

E. MARIO RAUL CASTRO. AISC LISTS A NUMBER OF MARIO CASTROS WHO IT BELIEVES WERE ABDUCTED.

3. ANY NEW INFORMATION WHICH EMBASSY CAN PROVIDE ON THE FIRE OR THE FIVE PRISONERS WOULD BE APPRECIATED. COOPER

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)  
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS  
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ☐ In Part ☒ In Full

☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

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